

REMARKS

Applicant has cancelled everything but the allowable claims to leave this application in condition for allowance. Claims 1, 2, 5 – 9, 11, 18, and 25 are now pending in the application. Claims 3, 4, 10, 12 – 17, 19 – 24, and 26 – 51 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The office action states that Claims 4 – 9 and 42 are objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Applicant has amended Claim 1 to include the limitations of Claims 3 and 4. Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to now be dependant on Claim 1 and Claims 7, 8 and 9 remain dependant on Claim 6.

CLAIMS OBJECTIONS

Claim 1 stands objected to for an informality. Applicant has amended Claim 1 and respectfully accommodated the objection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 11, 18, 41, 43, and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Schoenefeld (U.S. Pat. No. 6,827,722). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 2, 5 – 9, 11, 18 and 25

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable limitations of Claims 3 and 4 and, therefore, Claim 1 is now allowable. Claims 2, 5 – 9, 11, 18 and 25 are dependant upon Claim 1 and, therefore, are allowable.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, rendered moot or accommodated. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Final Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is always invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 30, 2006

By:


Richard W. Warner
Reg. No. 38,043
Joshua B. Dobrowitsky
Reg. No. 51,288

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

RWW/JBD